DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20380-0001

IN REPLY REFER TO
5720
MPI-10/1734
30 NOV 1987

Mr. Emory L. Brown, Jr.
R.D. 3, Box 618
Howell, NJ 07731

Dear Mr. Brown:

This is in reply to your Freedom of Information Act request of September 28, 1987, and to your letters of October 19, 1987 and November 19, 1987 to Mr. D. Stevenson, a member of the staff of Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps assigned to the Records Service Section.

On July 24, 1987, earlier correspondence from you to the Commandant of the Marine Corps requested information about Lee Harvey Oswald's membership in the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, USMCR, Gulfport, Mississippi. On August 13, 1987, you were advised in a letter from Mr. Stevenson that Mr. Oswald had never served in that Company. In further correspondence from you to Mr. Stevenson, dated August 21, 1987, you attached a copy of a document of U.S. Air Force origin which indicated that Mr. Oswald was in fact "Attached to" the Inspector-Instructor Staff of the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, USMCR. On October 5, 1987, Mr. Stevenson replied to your letter indicating that Mr. Oswald was never a member of that Company, but was merely attached administratively for record purposes. This response also answered your follow-up letter of September 28, 1987.

Your communication dated October 19, 1987 and addressed to Mr. Stevenson, indicated your apparent satisfaction about Mr. Oswald's status with respect to the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, USMCR. You also requested information for which responses are provided in subsequent portions of this letter.

In your letter of October 19, 1987 to Mr. Stevenson you make reference to an initial inquiry in December 1977 for which you did not receive a response. Because of the relative age of such an inquiry it has probably been destroyed in conformance with established records disposal instructions. Because of such instructions, records maintained by the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, USMCR would also have been destroyed. As such that unit no longer exists and has been replaced by Company A, 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, FMF, USMCR, Gulfport, Mississippi. Mr. Oswald's individual service records would not have been maintained by the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, USMCR since those records were at Headquarters Marine Corps, Arlington, Virginia. The records maintained by the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, USMCR would have included documents related to that organization's personnel and operations.

With respect to your questions about the training received by Mr. Powers and Mr. Oswald during the time they were at Keesler Air Force Base, it does appear that there is a similarity between their training and the Military Occupational Specialities assigned after completion of such training. Depending upon the particular needs of the Marine Corps at the time, individuals would have been assigned to fill certain training quotas to satisfy these needs. This is standard practice which is considered of no particular significance in Mr. Oswald's case, nor in the case of any other individual.

I hope that the information provided in this letter is satisfactory for your purpose.

Sincerely,

J. S. Vitalie

J. S. VITALIE
Manpower Plans and Policy Division